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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Michiyasu KOMATSU, et al.

SERIAL NO.: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION

FILED: HEREWITH

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/JP04/14529 INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: September 27, 2004

FOR: WEAR RESISTANT MEMBER COMPRISED OF SILICON NITRIDE AND

PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

REQUEST FOR PRIORITY UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119 AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application for patent, notice is hereby given that the applicant claims as priority:

COUNTRY

APPLICATION NO

DAY/MONTH/YEAR

Japan

2003-334122

25 September 2003

Certified copies of the corresponding Convention application(s) were submitted to the International Bureau in PCT Application No. PCT/JP04/14529. Receipt of the certified copy(s) by the International Bureau in a timely manner under PCT Rule 17.1(a) has been acknowledged as evidenced by the attached PCT/IB/304.

Respectfully submitted, OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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